

As we all know too well, on September 11, terrorists attacked our great Nation in a way many of us thought unimaginable. While these acts were, indeed, horrific, instead of leaving us frozen and helpless, so many Americans have banded together and acted in ways that exemplify why this country of ours is so great. The citizens of Akron are a perfect example of this.

After deliberating about what could be done to help the people of New York City, the executives of the Akron Beacon Journal came up with an answer: a fund to purchase a new fire truck for the city of New York.

On September 16, the Akron Beacon Journal opened the fund with a donation of \$25,000 and then asked the citizens of Akron to donate, as well. The people of Akron answered this call, and responded in a resounding way. Immediately, money began pouring in for the fund.

A month later, over \$1.3 million had been raised with donations from almost 50,000 individuals and companies and organizations. With this money, the City of Akron was able to purchase a 95-foot ladder fire truck, as well as two EMS vehicles and three police cars.

I am proud of the people of Akron. And, I thank them for their extraordinary gift. This donated equipment has done more than just help New York City rebuild some of what was lost. It has reminded us all of the amazing things we can accomplish when we pull together. Their gift was one from the heart and I thank each and every one who helped make this possible.●

HONORING DR. MOISES SIMPSE

● Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to a fine humanitarian and Floridian, Dr. Moises Simpson. Throughout his career as a pediatric pulmonologist, Dr. Simpson has worked for the well-being of all sick children; particularly those that are technology dependent and otherwise referred to as "fragile children." Dr. Simpson's goal has been an admirable one—to achieve the best medical care for all children of all economic strata and backgrounds.

Since his arrival in Florida in 1984, Dr. Simpson has been an unyielding advocate for the young patient. As Dr. Simpson's patients are technology dependent, they were only cared for in Intensive Care Units of hospitals, where they became virtual prisoners in the unit. He fought diligently for the State of Florida to cover the cost of homecare for a ventilator dependent child. Through this program, even the youngest of children on ventilators were sent home for care in their familiar and familial environments. However, even at home, the children increasingly became isolated within their own four walls. To help free these children, Dr. Simpson developed and founded the first Ventilator Assisted Children's Center Camp or VACC Camp.

VACC Camp is a place where both families and technology dependent children can be in an environment that allows these fragile children to do everyday activities that were once unavailable to them. These include activities such as swimming, boating, sailing, visiting malls, and many others. These children, always ventilator dependent and usually wheelchair bound and afflicted with additional diseases, are able to enjoy the wonders of Florida's nature and outdoors at no cost to their families.

VACC Camp has allowed both abled and disabled children to come together for a life broadening experience by providing an incentive for abled children to participate. Dr. Simpson has worked with Florida's Miami-Dade County school system to create a 100 percent volunteer staff, with the school board furnishing high school students with service credits for their volunteer efforts. This remarkable camp, now in its 16th year, earned Dr. Simpson the prestigious 1998 Governors Community Service Award from the College of Chest Physicians.

In addition to his development of VACC Camp, Dr. Simpson has established a pediatric asthma center for underprivileged children. He received a combined grant which allowed him to demonstrate that providing quality medical care to this population can reduce emergency room visits and hospitalizations in these children by 70 percent.

He has also established a Cystic Fibrosis Center in South Florida, the first such center to be associated with the National Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation honored him as the recipient of the first Lucent Technologies Humanitarian of the Year Award.

Dr. Simpson's altruism and dedication to quality health care for children regardless of race, gender, and economic status are a positive statement for doctors across America. Dr. Simpson has been honored and should be admired for the good he does every day, for his persistence in always improving the delivery of quality healthcare, and for his vision to meet the needs of severely debilitated children. I am indeed proud to acknowledge the work of Dr. Moises Simpson.●

TRIBUTE TO LOU "THE TOE" GROZA AND ERIC TURNER

● Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, today I honor two titans of the gridiron—Lou "The Toe" Groza and Eric Turner. These men both played football for the Cleveland Browns. And, sadly, both have passed away, leaving enormous voids not only in the lives of their families and friends, but also in the hearts of the millions of fans who admired them.

I'd like to spend a few minutes telling my colleagues about these two men. Both on and off the field, Lou Groza was a model sportsman and cit-

izen. In the 1940s, Lou Groza had no time for football because he was serving his country as a medic in Okinawa. Upon his return from the war, Groza joined Paul Brown's Cleveland team and capped the 1950 season with a NFL championship field goal against the Los Angeles Rams. That championship was the first of 12 in which Groza would compete. Throughout his 21-year career, the longest serving Brown player, Groza was selected for the Pro-Bowl nine different times.

During his football career, he totaled an incredible 1,608 points, appeared in 13 pro-football championship games, was a six-time All-NFL offensive tackle, and was the last member of the Browns inaugural team to retire. Groza's outstanding service to the Browns, and to football, was rewarded in 1974 with his induction into the Hall of Fame.

Lou Groza, who dearly loved his hometown of Berea, OH, and the Browns, was a man who really seemed larger than life. He was nothing sort of a sports legend. When Lou retired in 1967, it marked not only the end of his football career, but the end of a glorious era in Browns history.

Lou Groza's football achievements speak for themselves, but it was what Groza did off the field that fellow Clevelanders remember him for most. After retiring from the Browns, Groza became a partner in a successful insurance company. He was constantly giving back to the Cleveland community through charitable organizations, such as the "Taste of the NFL," which has raised millions for the hungry. Groza always had the time to sign an autograph and often was overheard saying: "I'm no better than the fans who rooted for me all those years."

In speaking of a man who cared so much of his community and his team, we should not forget another Brown star recently passed away. That man is Eric Turner. He was a safety, who was drafted second overall, the first defensive player to be picked that high since 1956. Although he only played a few years in Cleveland before the team was moved to Baltimore, Eric made it known that his heart would never leave the Browns of their wonderful fans. Eric was an active participant in the United Way, a devoted father, and a mentor to his teammates. His warm personality and generosity are truly missed.

Lou Groza and Eric Turner had a love for football and for those around them. They gave to their team, to their families, and to their communities. I think it is only fitting that we give a little back to them by honoring them today and by keeping them and their families in our prayers.

I feel honored today to stand before this body and pay my respects to these two fine men. They both displayed courage on the playing field, as well as in their own personal battles. Each man fought their failing health. Each man fought the good fight.